

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 2 and 7. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 2 and 7 replace the original sheet including Figs. 1, 2 and 7.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (3)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-26 are presently pending in this application, Claims 1-3, 7-19, 21, 23, 25 and 26 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the title of the application was objected to for not being descriptive; the drawings were objected to because of informalities; the specification was objected to for informalities; Claims 9-26 were objected to because of informalities; Claims 1-20 and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite; Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Olsson (U.S. Patent 6,577,596) in view of Admitted Prior Art; Claims 9, 10 15, 16, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Olsson in view of Admitted Prior Art in further view of Jorgensen (U.S. Patent 6,452,915); and Claims 11-14, 17-20 and 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Olsson in view of Admitted Prior Art in further view of Jorgensen.

In response to the objection to the title of the present application, a new title for the subject invention has been submitted herewith. The new title is believed to be fully descriptive of the present invention and no further objection to the title is therefore anticipated.

In response to the objection to the drawings, submitted herewith is a separate LETTER SUBMITTING REPLACEMENT DRAWING SHEET(S), submitting for approval changes to Figures 1, 2 and 7. Specifically, Figures 1 and 2 have been designated by a legend “Prior Art”, and Figure 7 was amended to correct typographical error as required by the Examiner.

In response to the objection to the specification, the noted informalities have been corrected herein.

With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, Claims 1-3, 7-19, 21, 23, 25 and 26 have been amended to clarify the subject matter recited therein. Thus, the pending claims are believed to be in compliance with the requirements of the statute. Also, the amendments are believed to find support in the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed, and thus no new matter is believed to be added thereby. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work in a joint effort to derive mutually satisfactory claim language.

Before addressing the outstanding Office Action, a brief review of Claim 1 as currently amended is believed to be helpful. Claim 1 according to the present invention is directed to a packet transmission method for transmitting packets classified according to a quality of service (QoS) requirement from a transmitting node to a receiving node, and the packet transmission method includes the steps of: in the transmitting node, selecting sequentially a QoS class; dividing a queued packet to be transmitted, which belongs to the selected class, into a plurality of predetermined data units; transmitting one of the predetermined data units; and applying a transmitter-side retransmission control process to the data unit to be transmitted when the selected class is a QoS class specified for data type packets; in the receiving node, receiving sequentially the data unit transmitted from the transmitting node; applying a receiver-side retransmission control process to the received data unit to be assembled when the received data unit belongs to one of the QoS classes specified for the data type packets; and assembling a plurality of received data units to restore an original packet in each QoS class.

The outstanding Office Action asserts that Olsson discloses “dividing a queued packet of the selected class into a plurality of predetermined data units.” Nevertheless, it is believed

that Olsson does not teach or suggest “in the transmitting node ..., dividing a queued packet to be transmitted, which belongs to the selected class, into a plurality of predetermined data units ...” as recited in amended Claim 1. On the other hand, Olsson merely states that “[l]ong packets ... may be fragmented into smaller packets.” In other words, Olsson does not disclose dividing every single packet to be sent into predetermined data units. Therefore, the subject matter recited in amended Claim 1 is clearly distinguishable from Olsson.

Similarly, Jorgensen is not believed to teach or suggest “in the transmitting node ..., dividing a queued packet to be transmitted, which belongs to the selected class, into a plurality of predetermined data units ...” as recited in amended Claim 1, and thus the subject matter recited in amended Claim 1 is believed to be distinguishable from Jorgensen.

Because none of Olsson, the alleged Admitted Prior Art, and Jorgensen discloses the dividing step as recited in amended Claim 1, even the combined teachings of these cited references are not believed to render the subject matter recited in Claim 1 obvious.

Likewise, Claims 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 23, 25 and 26 are believed to include subject matter substantially similar to what is recited in Claim 1 to the extent discussed above. Thus, Claims 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 23, 25 and 26 are also distinguishable from Olsson, the alleged Admitted Prior Art, and Jorgensen.

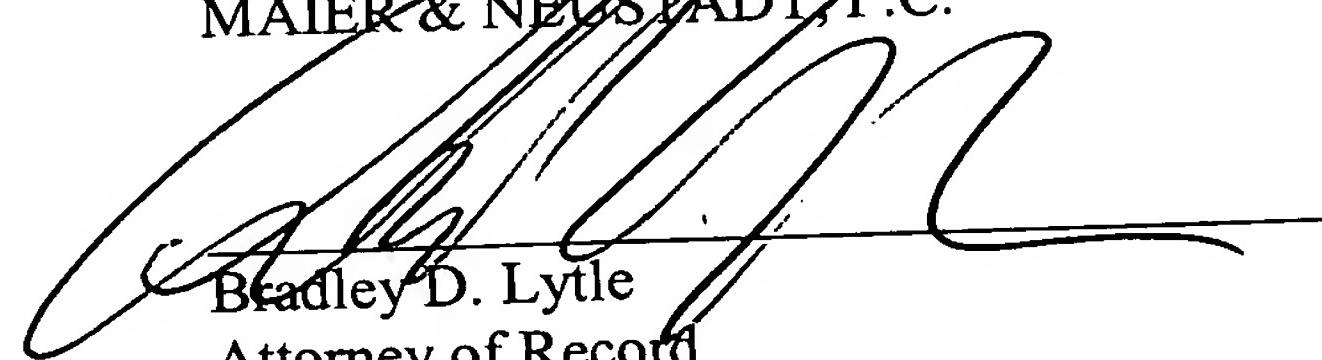
For the foregoing reasons, Claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 23, 25 and 26 are believed to be allowable. Furthermore, since Claims 2-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24 depend directly or indirectly from one of Claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 23, 25 and 26, substantially the same arguments set forth above also apply to these dependent claims. Hence, Claims 2-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24 are believed to be allowable as well.

Application No. 10/087,792
Reply to Office Action of May 22, 2006

In view of the amendments and discussions presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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